

APPENDIX TO TAHSC APPLICATION FORM

(pursuant to Ontario Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004)

Under the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004, the following information must be provided to the Research Ethics Board when requesting approval of research studies involving the collection, use and disclosure of personal health information.

The act defines personal health information as follows (s. 4):

“Personal Health Information” means identifying information about an individual in oral or recorded form, if the information,

- a) relates to the physical or mental health of the individual including information that consists of the health history of the individual’s family,
- b) relates to the providing of health care to the individual, including the identification of a person as a provider of health care to the individual,
- c) is a plan of service within the meaning of the *Long-Term Care Act, 1994* for the individual,
- d) relates to payments or eligibility for health care in respect of the individual,
- e) relates to the donation by the individual of any body part or bodily substance of the individual or is derived from the testing or examination of any such body part or bodily substance,
- f) is the individual’s health number, or
- g) identifies an individual’s substitute decision-maker.

“Identifying Information” means information that identifies an individual or for which it is reasonably foreseeable in the circumstances that it could be utilized, either alone or with other information, to identify an individual.

1. Describe all persons who will be involved in the research, including his or her roles in relation to the research, and his or her related qualifications. Please provide information regarding who will have access to the personal health information (as described above), and why this person’s access to personal health information is necessary.

The collection of personal health information is to be used solely for the medical history assessment to determine eligibility and confirm fitness. In his capacity as the physician assessing the patient, Dr. Marcelo Rodrigues would have access to the personal health information, but it would not be used for study purposes. Dr. Rodrigues is a medical doctor and a PhD, specialising in respirology.

2. Describe the anticipated public or scientific benefit of this study.
The study will benefit the public in terms of increased awareness of the health effects of air pollutant components.

3. Describe all personal health information required to be collected and from which potential sources.

The only personal health information to be collected will be in the form of a medical history, provided by the subject themselves. (see attached medical history form)

4. Provide a blank copy of all data collection sheets or Case Report Forms to be used during the research study.

See attached sheets and forms.

5. Justify why the research cannot reasonably be accomplished without using personal health information.

The personal health information is to be used solely to assess eligibility and fitness for the study.

6. Describe how the personal health information will be used in the research.
It will not be used for anything other than assessment of eligibility and fitness.

7. If the personal health information is to be linked to other information: **N/A**

- provide details of all linkages to be made
- explain how the linkages will be made
- describe the information to which it will be linked
- explain why these linkages are required.

8. When the researcher proposes to obtain personal health information without obtaining consent from the person, justify why consent is not being sought.

N/A

9. Describe how long personal health information will be retained in an identifiable form and why. **For the duration of the study only.**

10. Describe the reasonably foreseeable harms and benefits that may arise from the use of personal health information, and how the researcher intends to address those harms. **N/A**

11. Describe how and when the personal health information will be disposed of or returned to the health information custodian. **The information will remain coded and anonymous. At the end of the study, it will be destroyed.**

12. Has the researcher applied for the approval of another Research Ethics Board and, if so, please provide the response to, or status of the application.

13. Describe whether the researcher's interest in the disclosure of the personal health information or the performance of the research would likely result in an actual or perceived conflict of interest with other duties of the researcher. **N/A**